TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

IN OPPOSITION to L.D. 930

LD TITLE: An Act to Subject a Motorboat with a Certificate of Number from Another Jurisdiction to the Annual Registration Fee

SPONSORED BY: Representative NADEAU of Winslow

CO-SPONSORED BY: Representative CASSIDY of Lubec, Representative CHENETTE of Saco, Senator COLLINS of York, Representative DION of Portland, Representative FOWLE of Vassalboro, Representative LONGSTAFF of Waterville, Representative PEASE of Morrill, Representative SCHNECK of Bangor, Representative TURNER of Burlington

DATE OF HEARING: April 11, 2013

Good afternoon Senator Dutremble, Representative Shaw and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Bill Swan, Director of the Licensing Division at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, speaking in opposition to **L.D. 930**.

Currently, there is reciprocity across all 50 states for boat registrations. In general, a boat with a valid registration from another state is allowed to operate in Maine without registering in Maine. However, current state law requires that a boat that is in Maine for a period in excess of 60 consecutive days must register in Maine. L.D. 930 proposes to reduce the 60 consecutive day requirement down to 30 days. The Department is required to follow Federal law in regard to our boat registration processes; this 60 consecutive day requirement is also currently a state law. Remaining in compliance with Federal law is important and necessary to maintaining the funding stream which is of substantial value.

I would be happy to answer any questions at this time or during the work session.